

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application as amended.

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 2, 3, and 5 is acknowledged with appreciation.

Without acceding to the rejection of Claims 1 and 4, those claims have been cancelled, and Claims 2 and 5 have been rewritten in independent form (with editorial revisions not affecting their allowability).

Accordingly, this application is now in condition for allowance.

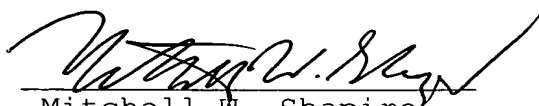
An early Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (XA-9979) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

January 5, 2007

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